



WILDLAND FIRE SAFETY REFRESHER INSTRUCTOR GUIDE

Mission Statement:

The intent of annual fireline safety refresher training is to focus line-going personnel on operations and decision-making issues related to fireline and all-hazard incident safety. Refresher training will ensure firefighters have information regarding current initiatives and the upcoming fire season. Refresher training is provided in order to recognize and mitigate risk, maintain safe practices, and reduce accidents and near misses.

The 2014 Fire Refresher was built for firefighters, by firefighters.

<http://www.nifc.gov/wfstar/>



INSTRUCTOR GUIDE



Notes to Instructor

Introduction

Annual Fireline Safety Refresher Training is required for all personnel participating in wildland fire who may be subject to assignments on the fireline. Check specific agency policy at the WFSTAR website to determine if this training package meets refresher training requirements of all the attendees.

Expectations

*****THIS IS NOT A PLUG AND PLAY PRODUCT. INSTRUCTOR PREPARATION AND STUDENT INTERACTION IS REQUIRED*****

Instructors should facilitate a quality refresher that engages all students no matter their ICS qualification or firefighting experience. The success of this program is dependent on your ability to stimulate meaningful discussion during group exercises. Classes with a wide array of experiences and qualifications can provide an excellent opportunity for the less experienced to be mentored and for the more experienced to rethink old habits.

Instructor Prerequisites

Lead instructors must be at least Single Resource Boss (SRB) qualified, and unit instructors must be at least Firefighter Type 1 (FFT1) qualified.

Adjunct instructors may be utilized to provide limited instruction in specialized knowledge and skills at the discretion of the lead instructor. They must be experienced, proficient and knowledgeable of current issues in their field of expertise.

All instructors will need the knowledge and skills to utilize current educational technology, as it relates to the WFSTAR website. Examples would be streaming and downloading interactive videos as well as the use of apps and mobile devices.



INSTRUCTOR GUIDE



Equipment and Materials

A list of equipment and other material required for course presentation includes:

- Media player
- Instructor Guide, Student Workbooks from WFSTAR [website](#)
- *Incident Response Pocket Guide* one for each student
- Sign-in sheet/training documentation form
- Flip chart(s) with paper and marking pens
- Download modules from WFSTAR website
- Optional: *New Generation Fire Shelter* video, NFES #2711
- Optional: *The New Generation Fire Shelter* booklet, NFES #2710

Administration

The instructor is responsible for identifying necessary equipment, materials, and supplies. The instructor is also responsible for recording attendance and assuring that evaluations are completed and returned:

ON THE WEB: http://www.nifc.gov/wfstar/contact_comments.html

BY MAIL: NWCG Training Development

Attn. Scott Anderson

3833 S. Development Avenue

Boise, ID 83705

BY FAX: (208) 387-5378

BY E-MAIL: s80ander@blm.gov

If all modules are utilized, the length of this program is approximately four hours, depending on time allowed for exercises. Additional time will be needed for the fire shelter deployment practice.

Encourage the students to explore the new [Tech Tools](#) web page on the WFSTAR website. Tech tools purpose is to provide a place for firefighters to get technology that helps them do their job safer and more efficiently.



INSTRUCTOR GUIDE



Module – Developing Realistic Tactical Objectives

Overview

This module is intended to point out pitfalls within the planning process and encourage firefighters to make plans that are resilient, robust, and ultimately successful.

Target Audience: Wildland Firefighters

Time: Video 13 minutes, Exercise 15 minutes, Total 28 minutes

Exercise: The exercise will be a short scenario driven discussion of ways to avoid the pitfalls in the planning process.



Instructor Tasks



- Introduce the goal listed above.
- Play the video
- Conduct the student exercise below
- Have the students use the QR code to evaluate the module

Exercise: The students will review the scenario in small groups and the most junior member of the group will act as the IC and answer the questions: **What could have been done differently in the planning stage to have kept the organization functioning despite the problem? What will you do to get the organization back on track given the current situation?** The student has the full resources of the experience of those in their group to draw from in answering the questions. Have each group present their solutions to the class

Scenario 1.

You are conducting a large scale burnout with a helitorch to keep the fire out of a populated drainage and other critical operations are waiting on this part of the plan to be completed before they can continue. As the pilot begins to make his first pass with the helitorch he accidentally punches off the helitorch, it is now no more than a small mushroom cloud and a smoking hole in the ground. There are no replacement helitorches. Take five to ten minutes to answer the two questions. You can assume a type 3 organization and the typical resources available through the dispatch system.



INSTRUCTOR GUIDE



Scenario 2.

You are prepping a half mile uphill line with a hoselay prior to burning out the area which the operational plan depends on completing to secure the division. Once the hose is in place you discover that water pressure is insufficient to charge the top half of the hoselay. It will take a full day to get more pumps from the cache. Take five to ten minutes to answer the two questions. You can assume a type 3 organization and the typical resources available through the dispatch system.

(These events actually happened in one form or another.)



Instructor Notes



Module Evaluation QR code



[Tech Tools](#)

